

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 20, with the following amended paragraph:

In yet another embodiment, a controller controls an excitation circuit to the energy conversion device to control the load on the primary energy source. There are two methodologies for controlling the excitation circuit. First, when a first predetermined set point is exceeded by a first monitored parameter, the excitation current is increased and, when a second predetermined set point ~~exceeds~~ is exceeded by the first monitored parameter, the excitation current is decreased. The first monitored parameter is revolutions per minute of a mechanical component of the prime energy source. Second, when the first predetermined set point is exceeded by a second monitored parameter, the excitation current is decreased and, when the second predetermined set point ~~exceeds~~ is exceeded by the second monitored parameter, the excitation current is increased. The second monitored parameter is the output power of the energy conversion device. In this manner, the primary energy source, when operating, can be reliably maintained at or near a peak fuel efficiency, maximum torque, maximum power or any other desired engine operating condition.